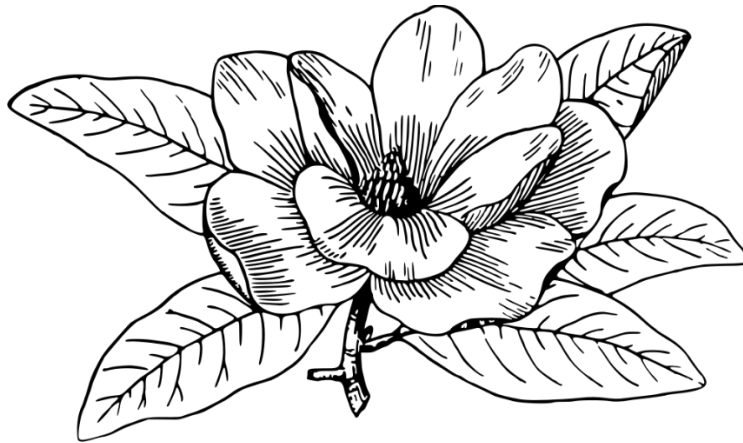


The Spencer Wright Law Firm, LLC Scholarship
Magnolia Leaders Scholarship 2024



Guidelines

One (1) book scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 will be awarded to a graduating member of the Class of 2024. The recipient of the award will receive \$500.00 each fall semester for three consecutive academic years so long as they are still enrolled in law school at the time of the distribution of the award. The College Senior must attend a College or University located in Madison County, Alabama and must have been accepted to at least one law school, to be eligible to apply. A copy of the law school admission letter must be attached to the application.

- Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and plan to attend Law School in the Fall 2024 semester.
- A completed application must include the signed application and supporting documentation (law school admission letter), essay, resume, unofficial school transcript.
- The deadline for submission of the scholarship application is May 18, 2024 at 11:59 pm. No Exceptions.
- Applications can be either submitted electronically by email to scholarship@spencer-wright.com; or mailed to:

Spencer Wright Law Firm, LLC Scholarship
521 Madison Street SE, Suite 202
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Applications will be reviewed and recipients selected by members of the scholarship committee. The Scholarship will be awarded on May 30, 2024.

Spencer Wright Law Firm, LLC Magnolia Leaders Scholarship Application 2024

Applicant Name: _____

Date: _____

Please type or write your answers in blue or black ink.	
1.	Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
2.	Mailing Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
3.	Daytime Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____
4.	Date of Birth: Month Day Year Gender:
5.	Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (On a 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA. Your most recent school transcript is required. Unofficial Transcripts are acceptable.
6.	Are you the first person in your family to go to law school: YES ___ NO ___
7.	(If your resume or activities sheet answers question 7, feel free to attach and skip to Question 9. If not, please answer the questions here.) A. List any academic honors, awards and membership activities while in College: _____ _____ _____ B. List your hobbies, outside interests, extracurricular activities and school related volunteer activities: _____ _____ _____ C. List your non-school sponsored volunteer activities in the community: _____ _____ _____
8.	A. If you have decided on which Law School you will attend, please list the school name: (Please attach a copy of your acceptance letter) B. If not, list your top 3 law school choices: _____ _____

Applicant Name: _____

Date: _____

9.	Intended Legal Practice Area: _____
10.	List Career Choice: _____

12. Please answer the following question (your response must be no less than two (2) typewritten pages, and no more than five (5) typewritten double-spaced pages, 1 inch margins, and the font may be no larger than 12-font:

You may conduct a comparative analysis of similar/relevant cases to support your position. Please note that your essay will be evaluated partly on your ability to persuasively support your position and your ability to present your position in a cogent manner addressing applicable legal issues when appropriate. Secondary source citations must be provided.

It has been widely researched and determined that the prefrontal cortex of the brain controls judgment, problem-solving, decision-making, and the regulation of impulsive behavior. Scientist also found that the prefrontal cortex of the human brain does not fully develop until the person's early twenties. This developmental timeline has been linked to the vulnerabilities of juveniles and their propensity to confess to criminal activities they may not have actually committed. It is estimated that false confessions play a role in one-third of all wrongful convictions that have been uncovered by DNA evidence, and juveniles are two to three times more likely to confess to crimes they did not commit than their adult counterparts. The United State Supreme Court has held in *J. D. B. v. North Carolina*, 564 U.S. 261 (2011) that the mental status and age of a minor is relevant to determine whether the questioning of a minor in a school setting requires the giving of a Miranda warning. The 2015 Netflix series "Making a Murderer" highlighted the techniques and problems of juvenile confessions in the *Wisconsin v. Brendan Dassey* case.

The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution states:

"No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

Question: Whether Juvenile confessions should be deemed presumptively unconstitutional under the Fifth Amendment based upon the age and mental status of the minor at the time of the confession? Why or why not?

Applicant Name: _____

Date: _____

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, I must be present at any potential awards ceremony, surprise, or reception to receive my scholarship award.

I hereby understand I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.

Signature of scholarship applicant:

Date:

Checklist

- Application
- Law School Admission Letter (copy)
- Essay
- Resume/Activity Sheet
- Unofficial School Transcript

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGE TO THE COMMITTEE AT:

Email: scholarship@spencer-wright.com

Or

The Spencer Wright Law Firm, LLC Scholarship
521 Madison Street SE, Suite 202
Huntsville, Alabama 35815